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1962

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — APPENDIX

Few developments speak more clearly. On the positive side, as in Stalin's day, were nearly 5 million tons of new steel capacity, new huge powerplants, and tire factories.

Italian Board of Guardians Honor Congressman Victor L. Anfuso

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

HON. VICTOR L. ANFUSO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 1962

Mr. ANFUSO. Mr. Speaker, on October 29, 1961, I was privileged to be honored by the Italian Board of Guardians at a testimonial dinner at the Hotel Astor in New York on the occasion of the organization's 25th anniversary of its founding. The reason why I was chosen for this signal honor was because I was the founder of the organization.

The Italian Board of Guardians was established for the purpose of combatting juvenile delinquency and helping children from broken homes. In the course of the years it became affiliated with the Catholic Charities of Brooklyn and its record of achievements is widely recognized.

Some 1,500 persons attended the dinner which turned out to be an event of personal tribute and affection for me and my family. Heading the list of distinguished guests were the Vice President and Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, Mayor Robert F. Wagner of New York, and many national, State and New York City leaders in government, religion, civic affairs, industry and labor.

In addition to the real tributes that evening, I was also the recipient of two awards. One, was the Founder's Award in the form of a bronze plaque presented to me by the Italian Board of Guardians "in grateful recognition of 25 years of dedicated service as benefactor of our youth." The other, was an award from the state of Israel in the form of a beautifully embossed Bible, personally inscribed by His Excellency Avraham Harman, the Israel Ambassador to the United States, and presented to me by Ambassador Michael Comay, the Israel representative to the United Nations.

It would be impossible, due to limitations of space, to insert into the RECORD all the addresses and the many congratulatory messages received from dignitaries of all walks of life. I shall, therefore, limit it to the following:

The address by Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson; the congratulatory message from President Kennedy; the message from our distinguished Speaker, the Honorable John W. McCormack, then still the majority leader of the House; also from the Honorable John B. Connally, Secretary of the Navy; the Honorable Herbert H. Lehman, our beloved former Governor of New York and former U.S. Senator; and the Honorable Angier Biddle Duke, Chief of Protocol of the United States. My son, Victor L. Anfuso, Jr., presented a bouquet of roses to his

mother and paid a very wonderful tribute to her, which I am glad to include here. Then there is the wording of the Founder's Award and the introduction by the toastmaster and my good friend, the Honorable Edward D. Re, Chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States.

Others who paid tribute were: Representatives John Rooney, of New York, and Torbert Macdonald, of Massachusetts; Jacob Potofsky, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America; Hon. Joseph T. Sharkey, majority leader of the New York City Council; Hon. Louis J. Lefkowitz, New York State attorney general; Hon. Lawrence E. Gerosa, comptroller of the city of New York; the Right Reverend Robert J. Testagrossa, pastor of St. Joseph's Patron Church; Rev. Anthony F. LoGatto, director of Catholic Charities in Queens; Hon. Joseph F. Carolino, speaker of the State assembly; Hon. Anthony J. Travia, minority leader of the State assembly; Hon. Bart Turecamo, president of the Italian Board of Guardians; Justice Anthony J. DiGiovanna, New York State Supreme Court; Justice Juvenal Marchisio, New York City Domestic Relations Court; Justice Leonard E. Ruisi, New York City Domestic Relations Court; State Senator Frank J. Pino; State Assemblyman Joseph R. Corso; Dr. Mario F. Tagliagambe, chairman of the IBG testimonial dinner committee; Hon. James V. Mangano, administrative director and general clerk, New York State Supreme Court; and the well-known labor leaders, Luigi Antonini, August Bellanca, and Howard Mollisani.

At the conclusion, I responded to all these tributes with an address which I am pleased to insert into the RECORD:

SPEECH BY VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON AT 25TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER OF THE ITALIAN BOARD OF GUARDIANS, HOTEL ASTOR, OCTOBER 29, 1961, IN HONOR OF ITS FOUNDER, CONGRESSMAN VICTOR L. ANFUSO

My dear friend, "Vic" ANFUSO, honored guests, ladies and gentlemen, just to think that you live in a country where a boy born in a foreign land 56 years ago, coming here at the age of 9 years, could sit in the highest councils of the Congress and enjoy the respect and the devotion of the President of the United States, the colleagues with whom he serves and the members of the judiciary who are here this evening, is something that makes us all proud, not only of America, but of Americans.

I have met many members of the judicial branch of the Government this evening. I am aware of the great reverence and respect that the members of the bar have helped to bring about for that separate, independent branch of the Government known as the judiciary.

I have served with great pleasure with the Members of the Congress from the great State of New York and particularly the Members from Brooklyn. Some of them are here this evening. The State of Massachusetts honors us with the presence of Congressman MACDONALD.

I have served with five Presidents of this country during the 30 years that I have spent in Washington. In all those years I have never known a period when our courts, our Congress, and our Chief Executive were confronted with more serious problems or more trying times than face us tonight.

I am privileged to sit in the councils with

the great leader of this country—the President of the United States—John F. Kennedy. I see that able judge of men and women spend every daylight hour and many hours in the evening, attempting to resolve the critical questions that come to him for decision and which cannot be passed on to anyone else.

From the experience of the last few months, I have drawn many lessons. One of the most important is this:

One thousand eight hundred million people in the world—almost 2 billion of the 3 billion total—have an income of less than \$9 per month. In our part of the world we have an income of more than \$8 per day. All 3 billion people are confronted with two philosophies, the Communist philosophy and the philosophy represented by the United States of America—a free country with three separate, independent branches of government, the executive, the legislative, and the judicial. If I could have my wish tonight, I would wish that the Congress in these times and the executive in these times could enjoy the same reverence and the same respect that are accorded to the judiciary.

The enemies of freedom-loving people know that they can never destroy America militarily. They know that they can never destroy America economically. So what would you do if you were looking at it from their viewpoint? You would do exactly what they wish to do and that is to try to destroy us from within. You would rally class against class, race against race, religion against religion, brother against brother, to the point that we would engage in a bitter struggle and weaken our country and believe every claim of Mr. Khrushchev and his minions.

These challenges confront our beloved President tonight. He has been the President for only a few months. He is the only President that this country has and is going to have for the next 4 years. He is the leader of the free world.

We can either help him by closing ranks and forgetting petty differences; by relegating our quarrels to yesterday; by marching forward together in unity; or we can divide, engage in class warfare, and bring our Nation to destruction.

I know what the answer is. I know the people of this country are not going to allow themselves to be so embroiled in bitter internecine warfare that the enemy can take over.

We have the military resources and we intend to use them. We will not be provocative; we will not be aggressors; but we are prepared to stand on our rights and preserve our integrity and our way of life.

It is most inspiring to me to come here this evening to join with honored citizens to honor this great man for his contributions to humanity and for his interest in bettering the role of his fellow men. Vic ANFUSO has proven the theory "Give to the world the best you have and the best will come back to you." As I leave the platform tonight to go across the Nation I feel better in having had the chance to be here and tell you how proud I am to be a citizen of and a resident of a nation that offers opportunity, equal opportunity, to all who reside in our boundaries.

NOVEMBER 1, 1961.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ANFUSO: I want to express my congratulations on the silver jubilee anniversary of your founding of the Italian Board of Guardians. I know the Guardians have played a most effective role in coping with juvenile delinquency and helping young people to build constructive and satisfying careers.

I regret that I was not able to attend the dinner held in observance of the founding of the organization but am glad that the Vice

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President was able to participate in the anniversary celebration.

Sincerely,

JOHN F. KENNEDY.

MESSAGE FROM CONGRESSMAN JOHN W. MCCORMACK, OF MASSACHUSETTS, HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER

I regret very much my inability to attend this evening's testimonial dinner to my close and valued friend, Congressman Victor Anfuso on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the founding by Congressman Anfuso of his splendid organization, the Italian Board of Guardians. Your organization has done outstanding constructive work during the past 25 years in the rehabilitation of character and good life in the cases of countless youth. There is no finer work that any group of men or women, or organization can be dedicated to than this. In honoring Congressman Anfuso you honor yourself for he is truly one of God's noblemen, as well as a great American and an outstanding legislator in the Halls of Congress. My regard for Congressman Anfuso is profound. My friendship for him is very deep. I admire him very much. He richly deserves the honor that you and those present are extending to him tonight. I extend to Congressman and Mrs. Anfuso and their loved ones my congratulations and my kindest regards, and to you and all others present my very best wishes.

MESSAGE FROM JOHN B. CONNALLY, SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

A new generation is not born with traits of responsibility, a sense of patriotism, selflessness and dedication to principle is gained by learning from others.

Your fine organization, knowing that youth is the future, has devoted a quarter century to providing guidance which leads to the development of the strong and responsible citizen.

The tragic consequences of juvenile delinquency are manifold not only to the individual, his family, and his faith, but also to our United States which relies so heavily on its most important human resources—the moral fiber of its youth.

To the members of the Italian Board of Guardians, past and present, and all who assist in carrying on your vital work, I extend the Navy's congratulations and best wishes on this 25th anniversary. We express special gratitude to Congressman Victor L. Anfuso whose foresight, inspiration, and dedicated leadership has meant so much to your organization and to the defense and success of our Navy and our country.

MESSAGE FROM GOV. HERBERT H. LEHMAN

DEAR VICTOR: I left New York shortly after primary day and your recent letter reached me only a few days ago. Hence the delay in acknowledging it. I have taken note, however, that you were leaving for Rome shortly after your invitation was sent to me and I assume that you have not returned even now.

I greatly appreciate your very kind invitation to attend and speak at the dinner of the Italian Board of Guardians on October 29 which is honoring you on its 25th anniversary as its founder. As you know, I took a very active part in the primaries and am returning to New York within the next 2 or 3 days to participate in the mayoralty campaign. Unfortunately, I have a number of engagements both during the day and on the evening of October 29, some of very long standing. I have tried to rearrange my schedule so as to make it possible for me to participate in this well deserved tribute to you. Unfortunately, however, I have found it impossible to do so. Were it possible for me to accept your invitation I would consider it a privilege to join with your many other friends in this tribute to you and to the

very fine organization for whose creation I understand you are largely responsible.

I am sure that the dinner will be a most impressive and enjoyable affair.

May I send my heartiest congratulations and warmest good wishes to you and wish for the Italian Board of Guardians many years of continued fine service to the community which it has served so long and so faithfully.

With kindest personal regards and warmest good wishes.

Yours very sincerely,

HERBERT H. LEHMAN.

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 27, 1961.

MARIO P. TAGLIAGAMBE, M.D.,
Italian Board of Guardians,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

On the occasion of your dinner on Sunday evening at the Hotel Astor for Congressman Victor Anfuso let me express my regret to you and "Vic" at not being able to attend. I send you my congratulations for recognizing through the medium of your silver jubilee Congressman Anfuso's leadership and deep personal interest in the glorious cause of youth.

ANGIER BIDDLE DUKE,
Chief of Protocol of the United States.

PRESENTATION OF ROSES TO MRS. VICTOR L. ANFUSO BY VICTOR L. ANFUSO, JR., AT TESTIMONIAL TO VICTOR L. ANFUSO TENDERED BY THE ITALIAN BOARD OF GUARDIANS ON OCTOBER 29, 1961

Mr. Toastmaster, we gather here tonight to celebrate an anniversary, to preserve a spirit of charity, and to honor a man of ideas. But this night belongs also to another person among us.

Your guest of honor was never one to be content with a work a day world, and, from the beginning, he chose instead to climb a steep mountain, complete with crags and crevices, stress, and conflict. But that journey was not made alone. (Nor perhaps is the mountain fully climbed yet.)

And as the guest of honor thinks back, how could he describe the companion of those years. Would he say that she is the mother of his children—Diana, Marianina, Frank, and Joe? Would he describe her as a simple person, who prefers to remain out of the limelight, who would be as content in a farmhouse as in a palace of kings? Would he think of her as a humble person who devotes one-half hour each night to prayer before her head hits the pillow? Would he say that she is a thoughtful person who thinks first of her five children—or as she sometimes likes to say, her six children—before thoughts of herself?

I am sure he would say that she is something more, that she possesses an indefinable power: to bolster confidence with a soft unnoticed word; to put you back on the right path when an instinct tells you to fight back; to comfort in an hour of defeat.

There is a union of two natures, primarily different, which burns the brighter because of the contrast. It is like the effect left on an audience by a great composer who resolves a crescendo of discordant sounds by a balanced pianissimo.

I hold in my hands fresh and blooming roses. My father had a sister named Rose, but the true rose of his life, still freshly blooming, is his wife, Mrs. Frances Anfuso.

TESTIMONIAL BRONZE PLAQUE PRESENTED TO THE HONORABLE VICTOR L. ANFUSO
FOUNDER'S AWARD TO CONGRESSMAN VICTOR L. ANFUSO, R.C.H.S.

Great in the public life of the Nation yet ministering to the poor, the humble, the distressed, in grateful recognition of 25 years of dedicated service to I.B.G. as benefactor of our youth with fervent prayers that God will continue to bless and prosper this noble son of the church.

Presented by the Italian Board of Guardians, October 29, 1961.

REMARKS OF HON. EDWARD D. RE, CHAIRMAN, FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION OF THE UNITED STATES IN INTRODUCTION AND HONOR OF CONGRESSMAN VICTOR L. ANFUSO

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished guests, members of the Italian Board of Guardians, representatives of the press, and fellow Americans, the function of a toastmaster, at a gathering such as this, is quite as important as it is simple. Essentially, it involves the introduction of the guest of honor to the audience. Responsibility is enhanced when the guest is eminent and the audience distinguished.

Since the introduction is designed to acquaint the audience with the guest and his qualifications, both custom and good sense require that the toastmaster state briefly and accurately the accomplishments and achievements of the one to be honored.

If I were to do this with relation to our guest tonight, I would have to tell you that Victor L. Anfuso was born in 1905, at Gagliano, Castelferrato, Sicily; that his brilliant career began as a student in elementary and commercial high school in Brooklyn; that he attended Columbia University in New York, and graduated from St. Lawrence University Law School (new Brooklyn Law School). I would also have to tell you that he was awarded the LL.B. degree in 1927 and admitted to the New York bar in 1928.

When a person of national prominence, holding truly high office is presented, however, protocol and tradition require that the master of ceremonies simply identify the speaker by the title of his office. The dignity and prestige of the office give a status that does not require a biographical statement of achievements or offices previously held. Accomplishments are properly presumed, and all prior attainments are merged in the high office presently held.

Although Congressman Anfuso falls within this latter category, ladies and gentlemen, it is my intimate personal friendship of long standing with him that allows me to disregard protocol in order to acquaint all of you with his many outstanding accomplishments that are often minimized by our guest's natural modesty.

And so, I hope that it will not be regarded as presumptuousness on my part to acquaint you with the highlights of our guest's career and his achievements. Rather, permit me to do so as a proud friend.

After his admission to the New York bar in 1928, Victor L. Anfuso engaged in the practice of law in New York City. The humanitarian spirit of our honored guest throughout his extremely active life was early manifest by his great strides as a civic leader and organizer. During and after the great depression, he organized Citizens Welfare Association in Brooklyn. You will recall that this association was instrumental in aiding those who were hardest hit by the depression.

During World War II, Victor L. Anfuso served in the Office of Strategic Services in the Mediterranean theater, another milestone in a long and honorable career dedicated to the service of God and country. For this service he was later awarded the Certificate of Merit by the Regular Veterans Association. In 1946 he was knighted by Pope Pius XII as a Commander of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, for his "humanitarian work on behalf of youth."

Upon his return to the United States, he was appointed special assistant to the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization. Congressman Anfuso played an important role in the extensive surveys and research into the immigration laws as pertaining to southern Europe which were made at this time.

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It is a matter of common knowledge that our guest has been a staunch and continuing foe of communism in this country and abroad. In 1948, for instance, he undertook a gigantic task—that of informing hundreds of thousands of Italian citizens abroad to defend themselves against the Communist threat by voting against the leftwing candidates in the Italian elections of 1948. Italian officials admitted that this effort resulted in the victory of the democratic De Gasperi government, and the New York Times described Anfuso as a “one-man crusader.”

He has been the recipient of many awards, among which may be included honors from the Post Office Employees, the American Legion, the Jewish War Veterans, the Liberty Award of the Democratic Nationalities Division, the “Humanity Award” from the Order Brith Abraham, the Polish Migration Committee, Polish-American Youths, the Commander of the Order of Merit from the Italian Government, and many others.

Victor L. Anfuso's continuing struggle and sacrifice on behalf of our American ideals did not long go unrecognized. On November 7, 1950, he was elected by the people of his community to the 82d Congress of the United States. When he first came to Congress, he was assigned to the least desired committee, the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee. But Congressman Anfuso found himself at home on this committee—because it concerned actual people, and no special interest projects. Although still a freshman in Congress, he became one of the most valued members of the committee and the champion of better postal service and better working conditions for postal employees. Congressman Anfuso began by visiting every post office in the city, coming back to Washington to sponsor immediate legislation. In 1952, he led the fight for the first real pay increase the postal employees had ever enjoyed. It is small wonder, then, that so many postal employees throughout the State and Nation remember him for his services and are represented at this testimonial.

After 2 years in office, he was forced to retire from Congress when his home districts were reapportioned. But this distinguished public servant was far too valuable to the interests of the city and the Nation to be permitted to return to private life. Mayor Robert F. Wagner, whose cause he sponsored in 1953, tendered Victor L. Anfuso the first available judicial appointment upon his taking office in 1954.

Our guest, therefore, continued to serve the public interest on the bench. But the call to a more active life in our country's Congress came again and again from the people he had served so well in the past, and our guest of honor was not one to let the responsibilities of high public office remain unchallenged. With the recommendation of our Democratic county leader, Joseph Sharkey, he ran again, and was overwhelmingly elected to the 84th Congress in 1954. Since then, he has been reelected to the 85th, 86th, and 87th Congresses.

Back in Congress, the administration, cognizant of his previous magnificent record on the Post Office Committee, wanted him to serve as a member of the Agricultural Committee. It is important that no city Member had ever been appointed to this committee before, and people at first wondered what a man devoted to the cause of urban people and issues was doing on a “farm” committee. Once again, however, Congressman Anfuso realized the opportunity to serve not only the farmers, but the people from the city—as consumers. In one of his oft-quoted speeches, he told the Congress:

“I don't have a farm in Brooklyn. The nearest I can come to being a farmer is that I have a flowerpot on my window sill which gets watered every day. But remember, I

represent more people from the cities than those of you from the farm areas. You want better prices for your products. We want better wages, better working conditions, better housing and fair prices for our consumers. Remember also, that this is not a one-way street. Farmers and city people must work together for a more abundant and a stronger America.”

Through his own personality, wisdom, and fairness, Congressman Anfuso won many friends from both sides of the congressional aisle which separated Democrats from Republicans. Soon he became chairman of the Consumer Committee, which he had helped to create; for the first time in congressional history, the consumers of America were assured of adequate representation.

Then dawned the age of space. To meet the many challenges this new era of human history presented to our Nation, a new committee was created by the Congress. Congressman Anfuso was selected as a ranking member. He serves today as chairman of the Subcommittee on International Cooperation and Security, and as a congressional adviser to the United Nations. In addition, his past record as legislator has virtually assured him a key role on the full Committee on Science and Astronautics.

On this committee, Congressman Anfuso, following the objectives of President Kennedy in keeping this country the strongest in the world, has been instrumental in the great forward strides this committee has taken since its inception. To inspire our scientists, for instance, Congressman Anfuso sponsored a law granting, to those making contributions and breakthroughs in science, a Presidential Medal of Honor as well as a cash award. This law passed unanimously. Congressman Anfuso has also proposed a Science Academy which will rank with our other three great Academies. He has also made the observation that if this Academy is added to our Army, Navy, and Air Academies, we will have created a fourth pillar of defense—the initials of the four spelling SANA—which, in Latin, means sound and strong.

Such constructive ideas are typical of the activity of our guest. At a recent convention in Washington, D.C., of the International Federation of Scientists and Astronauts, for instance, Victor L. Anfuso proposed that, in the forthcoming flight to the moon, we send a Russian, an American, and a neutral. He added, significantly, that: “Such a team, trained together, welded into a single operating unit and experiencing the glories and hardships of a flight to the moon, would dramatically symbolize the brotherhood of man.”

Of Victor L. Anfuso's many other activities and contributions in our Congress I need make no mention. We are all acquainted with his unparalleled accomplishments on our behalf in this branch of the Government; we are familiar with his far-reaching and constructive proposals in other areas—law, culture, and science; we are aware of his place on the front line of the ideological conflict in which we are now engaged. Congressman Anfuso's record—in all these undertakings—speaks for itself. It is a record of which each and every one of us—as fellow Americans, as constituents, as friends, as New Yorkers—can be justifiably proud.

In retrospect, I find I have omitted a very important item—the exemplary family life which this devoted public servant has led since his marriage in 1930 to the former Frances Stallone of Brooklyn. The Anfusos have been blessed with five children—Victor, Jr. (who is already following in his father's footsteps, recently graduating from St. John's Law School and being admitted to the bar); Diana, Marianina, and twin sons Francis and Joseph.

On this memorable occasion, however, I have saved the most appropriate, and per-

haps one of the most important, contributions of Congressman Anfuso until the last.

It is by the success and permanence of our institutions that we can most properly appreciate the men who founded them. To us gathered here tonight, this silver anniversary testimonial banquet is an event of great significance. It is a tribute, first of all, to the permanence and vitality of a great organization—the Italian Board of Guardians. To those of us present who have witnessed the noble work of the board throughout the years in aiding children from broken homes—this, indeed, is a happy occasion, and one which will be long remembered.

But this wonderful event has an added significance. For in honoring the Italian Board of Guardians, we pay lasting tribute to the man whose wisdom, foresight, and exceptional judgment and sacrifice did much to make its founding possible. It is a tribute to this man and his work that we are assembled here tonight.

It has been said that it is a sacred duty of every American to perpetuate our civil institutions and to avert the dangers which may threaten them. By these standards, Victor L. Anfuso has truly earned our lasting tribute, as well as this testimonial in his honor. Through the board that he founded and nurtured, through all the many activities of a dedicated career, he has helped us all achieve the ideals to which we as a nation are steadfastly committed. In devoted and patriotic service to God, country, and fellow man; in a brilliant, long and honorable career as a public servant, lawyer, judge, and Congressman, no one is more deserving of our highest praise and emulation than our honored guest on this silver anniversary, Congressman Victor L. Anfuso.

ADDRESS BY CONGRESSMAN VICTOR L. ANFUSO

Ladies and gentlemen, I recognize that this is a signal honor—an honor which 25 years ago I did not even foresee. But the child called the Italian Board of Guardians has grown into benign maturity with such wonderful proportions that today it is able to guide the destinies of thousands who otherwise might have strayed into a life of crime. I alone did not bring this child into being. Many who are here contributed to its formation, and most of you have brought it to its present status.

I shall remember and forever cherish the award presented to me this evening by Ambassador Michael Comay, the Israel representative to the United Nations, in behalf of the Government of Israel. This is indeed a token of great esteem and high honor. May I assure the Ambassador—and I shall be pleased if he would convey this to his government—that I am not only fortified in my sincere friendship and esteem for the people of Israel, but that I stand ready at all times to do all in my power and to lend my assistance in every way possible to help bring peace and security to Israel.

As I look back, it was not a pretty picture which I observed 25 years ago, as a practicing attorney of only a few years. The calendars of our criminal courts were filled with Italian names of young men waiting to be tried for crimes of violence, including murder. But what disturbed me the most was our children courts' calendars, replete with names ending in a vowel. Here were our future rapists, thieves and murderers. I was sure that environment alone was not the cause of these children's delinquencies. I had been brought up in the same environment and fought my way through the jungle of poverty and despair. But I had someone to guide me—someone who understood me; who spoke the same language I did. This guidance came from my mother and older brothers and sisters who came with me to this glorious country in 1914. I was only 9 then, but I had already been to school

in Italy and had worked with my father as an apprentice in his business for 3 years until his death. I never stopped working when I came to these shores and continued my education, first during the day and then at night.

Having grown with delinquents in a real tough neighborhood in those days, receiving a broken nose and other forms of injury because I refused to join their gangs, I learned a good deal of the causes of their delinquencies. I also learned to fight with my fists and in time won their respect so that they left me alone. There were times when I would be invited to their homes and learned that children and parents lived in two separate worlds. There was no family spirit at all. There was complete estrangement. The children spoke the English they had learned in school and some of the gutter language they picked up on the streets of New York. The parents spoke no English at all and left the house only to go to work with some paisano. They were hard working, these foreigners from Italy, as were my brothers and sisters and my mother, who took in work at home. The difference between my home and theirs was that we spoke the same language at our home and gathered together for dinner every night, whereas the parents of these other children spoke no English and the children no Italian. Parents and children were never together at dinner and there was absolutely no means of communication between them. They lived in a house without a home. When a child got into trouble and a truant officer or policeman would call at the home, the mother or the father could give no information that would be helpful to restore the child to a useful life. Such little information as they had about the child's doings they would withhold from the court officer with the result that the child was invariably sent to a correction institution for a minor offense. From there he was graduated to bigger institutions and sometimes wound up in the electric chair. He never had a chance. You know it's difficult to be a man. It's difficult to be a woman. Neither a skirt nor a pair of pants makes either one. It takes character. What I regret is that some kids never have a chance to build character.

This was the situation which I and others aimed to correct 25 years ago. How to do it was another thing again. We had no social workers of Italian extraction, no society with a knowledge and ability to solve the problem. We were still newcomers to this great land of many peoples.

I had heard of the Jewish Board of Guardians and how it had solved the problems of delinquency and crime among youths of the Jewish faith. I spoke to its president and my good friend—here tonight—Mr. Philip Heimlick, and I received the most wonderful cooperation enabling me to form a charter based on the model given to me by the Jewish Board of Guardians.

Soon we had our own court officers and truant officers who could understand the Italian language, win the confidence of the parents, and with proper knowledge of the family situation finally win the confidence of the delinquent boy himself. Thus, we were able to present a true picture to the judge or to the school authorities, making it possible for the boy to be placed in our care instead of an institutional home or prison.

The results, as I have said, have been almost miraculous. The calendars of our criminal and children's courts are no longer congested with names ending in a vowel. Indeed, the Italo-Americans have come into their own. The fear of future Costellos or Lucky Lucianos no longer exists.

But more than helping Italo-Americans, the Italian Board of Guardians has contributed to a better America, as did the

Irish, the Poles, the Germans and the people of the Jewish faith before them. To unite the country further and to make an invincible America, we must with equal fairness and justice deal with our fellow citizens from Puerto Rico and the Negroes. In furtherance of this, I was happy to lend a copy of the charter of the Italian Board of Guardians to some of my Puerto Rican friends some years ago, and today there is in existence a Puerto Rican Board of Guardians. I predict that in a very short time the Puerto Ricans will make an even more valuable contribution to the welfare of our city, State, and Nation.

The Negro situation looms now foremost on the American horizon. It cannot be handled superficially. We must recognize once and for all that anywhere in these United States they are entitled to the same pursuit of life, liberty, and happiness, and the equal protection of our laws.

I can never forget Richard Wright's book about the colored boy in the slums who, looking up at the airplane in the sky, muttered: "Fly that plane, white box, fly that plane." He knew it was a white boy flying that plane and he knew too that it could never be him, no matter how much he wanted it. That is the trouble today. The Negro feels trapped and feels that he has to fight back—fight everybody.

But I can assure you that they cannot and will not be held down much longer. Negro education and Negro culture have soared. The educated and the cultured are beginning to take care of their own and soon the colored people will assume their proper responsibilities and further enrich the society in which we live.

Nations, just like people, have found it difficult to live together. In the last 2,000 years the world has gained much knowledge, but when we observe the direction in which mankind is headed I am sorry to say that it has gained very little wisdom. Our tremendous progress in the field of science has brought the world to a situation where we are faced with the choice of total destruction or a world of peace and abundance for all.

We cannot lose this struggle if we recognize that the real strength of America lies in its many national and racial strains. These blended together have made the United States, the youngest of Western nations, the strongest country in the world. Further understanding will make it invincible in the future.

Regardless of all the dire prognostications about mankind and its survival in the future, I am optimistic concerning man's ability to extricate himself from the present dilemma in the world and to face a glorious future of peace and abundance for all. We need but to look to our faith in God for encouragement and hope. We can find different messages of hope expressed differently by each of our major faiths or by the prophets of these faiths, but in essence all these messages stem from the One God that is the Creator and Father of all humanity.

In Isaiah (ch. LIV, verse 17), for example, we find this very encouraging prophecy for the future of mankind:

"No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper * * *

In St. Matthew (ch. XVI, verse 18), we find this prophecy:

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

And from a modern-day Protestant religious leader, D. L. Moody, I quote this observation:

"I think it would take the wrinkles out of your brow if you would just look into the future, instead of into the past. There are two kinds of people—some that live on the past, and some that live on the future. You

never saw a person living upon the past all the time, and always talking about the past, that did not have a great many wrinkles on his brow."

I am confident that these messages from God and the interpretations of the words of God will someday bring out the best in men and women everywhere and cause peoples all over the world to unite for the betterment and the glory of all mankind, no matter what their religious beliefs. God's message of peace on earth will eventually reach all peoples and will unite this world of ours as it has never been united before.

Thus, united, mankind can conquer space, settle other planets, and eventually bring back to earth presently unimaginable resources to create a world of abundance—making war in the future unthinkable and unnecessary.

My friends, will you please rise with me and together let us toast the future. May we, with the help of God, pass through these days of turmoil, which hold the threat of atomic bombs and missiles over our heads and give us neither peace nor rest. May we be privileged to live and to see some of the wonders that a united world can bring to all mankind.

Good or Bad Government Comes From the Citizen

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. ALAN BIBLE

OF NEVADA

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Thursday, February 8, 1962

Mr. BIBLE. Mr. President, one of Nevada's outstanding citizens is Fred Dressler, a rancher from Gardnerville and a member of a pioneer family in my native State. Mr. Dressler, as president of the American National Cattlemen's Association, recently delivered what I consider to be a most thought-provoking address at the organization's 65th annual convention in Tampa, Fla.

I ask unanimous consent that Mr. Dressler's address be printed in the Appendix of the Record.

There being no objection, the address was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS, FRED H. DRESSLER, GARDNERVILLE, NEV., FOR 65TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF AMERICAN NATIONAL CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION, TAMPA, FLA., JANUARY 24-27, 1962

Whether we like it or not, we have responsibilities and obligations which supersede all other considerations in our brief spans on earth.

First we have responsibilities as citizens, the pride, the dignity and self-respect of standing on our own two feet and not leaning on the other folks for our existence. Then we have duties as cattlemen, as custodians of the lands and animals only loaned to us by a divine providence and the conscious or unconscious continuance of this privilege by our fellowmen under the laws and government of a yet free people.

As citizens, we show our responsibility for good, just, and practical government by not letting a vacuum be created into which irresponsible persons and ideas move. A dynamic, fluid nation must constantly suffer the impact of new peoples and philosophies. We wouldn't want it any other way, of course. But we must work with and understand them to try and emphasize unwork-